

**5440-65A Associate School Nurse**

*The holder is authorized to provide school health services in grades PK-12.*

In order to qualify for this endorsement, the candidate shall demonstrate the following:

Knowledge Standards

**Demonstrates knowledge of general nursing and school nursing concepts and skills delineated in current national nursing<sup>1</sup> and school nursing standards<sup>2</sup> and health concepts and skills delineated in *Vermont's Framework of Standards and Learning Opportunities* including:**

Pediatric, community health, emergency, adult, and mental health nursing

Current state and federal laws, regulations, and procedures governing identification, referral, healthcare, privacy issues, placement, and accommodation of students

Health promotion strategies for the individual and health risk factors, including the Centers for Disease Control's Priority Risk Behaviors<sup>3</sup>

Interpersonal relationships, cultural, psychological, sociological, emotional, and environmental factors that influence health behaviors

Effective organization, time management, and communication skills

Problem solving and decision making skills

The Vital Results for personal development in *Vermont's Framework of Standards and Learning Opportunities*

Professional and ethical issues in general nursing and school nursing

The Vermont *Standards of Practice: School Health Services*

Purposes of the Coordinated School Health Program

Performance Standards

**The associate school nurse improves and protects the health status of students and staff by identifying and participating in the removal or modification of health related barriers to the learning of individual students. Specifically, the associate school nurse:**

*Provision of Health Service*

Provides health assessments for individual students and initiates referrals to other school personnel and community health resources for health management or treatment, as necessary

Provides direct health services and/or health counseling to assist students, families, and staff in making informed decisions on choices related to health

Develops, provides, and/or oversees implementation of student health care plans, management protocols, and policies to meet health needs of students and recommends modifications to the school program

## **5440-65A Associate School Nurse (Cont'd)**

Interprets the student's health status to parents/guardians, and school personnel

Identifies or assists in identification, referral, and follow through on child abuse and neglect as required by law

Identifies and refers students for psychosocial and substance abuse issues and evaluates interventions

### *Preventative Health*

Maintains, evaluates, and interprets individual student health records

Develops and implements procedures and protocols for the prevention and management of injury and acute and chronic illness

Promotes and assists in the control of communicable diseases through development and/or implementation of early detection programs and preventative immunizations, surveillance and follow up of contagious diseases, and reporting, as appropriate, to the Vermont Health Department

Provides health information to individuals

### *Involvement with Other School and Community Personnel*

Contributes as needed as the health professional on a variety of teams, including the child education evaluation teams that develop Individual Education Plans (IEPs), 504 plans, educational support team (EST) recommendations, and other specialized plans for students

Joins with other school and community personnel to ensure a safe and health promoting school environment and program for students and staff

Participates in a Coordinated School Health Program (CSHP)

Serves as a liaison on health issues among home, school, and community

Develops protocols for, trains, and oversees those school personnel delegated to carrying out health service activities in accordance with Vermont *Standards of Practice: School Health Services*

Develops procedures concerning health issues in accordance with school policies

### *Additional Requirements*

Associate's Degree/Diploma from a nursing program accredited by the National League for Nursing (NLN)

A current license as a Registered Nurse (RN) in the state of Vermont

Current certificates in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and first aid

Four years of clinical nursing experience that must include community health and pediatric nursing

**5440-65A Associate School Nurse (Cont'd)**

Completion of an approved educational orientation program provided through the Department of Education and based on the requirements for delivery of health services as defined in the Vermont *School Quality Standards* and the Vermont manual titled *Standards of Practice; School Health Services*

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<sup>1</sup> American Nurse's Association (2001). *Standards of Clinical Nursing Practice* (2<sup>nd</sup> Ed.). Washington, DC: Author.

<sup>2</sup> Lordi, S. & Bradley, B. *Standards of professional school nursing practice: Applications in the field* (2000, National Association of School Nurses) and National Association of School Nurses Position Statement – *Professional school nurse roles and responsibilities: Education, certification, and licensure* (2000, Author).

<sup>3</sup> U. S. Department of Health and Human Services (January, 2000). *Healthy People 2010* (Conference Edition in two volumes) Washington DC: Author.